

Example of application funded under the following solicitation:

Recovery Act: FY 2009 State and Local Law Enforcement
Assistance Program: Combating Criminal Narcotics Activity
Stemming from the Southern Border of the United States

Applicant: City of Robstown

APPLICATION FOR

1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION Application Non-Construction		2. DATE SUBMITTED 04/17/2009	APPLICATION IDENTIFIER
		3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE	STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER
		4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY	FEDERAL IDENTIFIER
5. APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Legal Name City of Robstown		Organizational Unit Police Department	
Address (city, state, and zip code) 101 East Main Avenue PO Box 872 Robstown, Texas 78380-3347		Name and telephone number of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application Beatriz Charo (361) 387-4589	
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN)		7. TYPE OF APPLICANT Municipal	
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION New		9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY Bureau of Justice Assistance	
10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE Number: 16.809 CFDA Title: 16.809 - Southwest Border		11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT Improve crime and intelligence analysis and enhance law enforcement efforts by purchasing Mobil Digital Communications Systems equipment and increased patrol presence.	
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT Nueces County; Robstown, Texas			
13. PROPOSED PROJECT		14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT(S) OF	
Start Date: 06/01/2009	Ending Date: 06/01/2011	a. Applicant TX27	b. Project TX27
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING		16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?	
a. Federal	\$472,626	Program is not covered by E.O. 12372	
b. Applicant	\$0		
c. State	\$0		
d. Local	\$0		
e. Other	\$0		
f. Program Income	\$0	17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?	
g. Total	\$472,626	N	
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS REQUIRED.			
a. Typed Name of Authorized Representative Rodrigo Ramon		b. Title Mayor	c. Telephone number (361) 387-4580
d. Signature of Authorized Representative		e. Date Signed	

Program Abstract (Attachment 1):

Applicant's Name: City of Robstown, Texas
Robstown Police Department

Title: South Texas Inter-local Drug Interdiction Effort (Robstown)

Dollar Amount Requested: \$476,606.00

Proximity to Texas/Mexico Border: Mexico border is 112 miles to west and 119 miles to south

Category: Category 1, Combating Criminal Narcotics Activity along the Southern Border

Program Goal: Control, reduce, and/or prevent criminal narcotics activity, including drug-related crime and violence, along the Southern border region of the United States.

Goals of Project:

1. Intercept, apprehend, prosecute and remove individuals transporting narcotics, weapons and illegal human trafficking through our area into the interior of the United States or Mexico.
2. Seize and destroy illicit contraband being transported north through our area into the interior of the United States.
3. Interrupt the local production and distribution of contraband and control the violence associated with the local illicit narcotics market.
4. Intercept and seize weapons and U.S. currency being transported to the south into Mexico.

Strategies: Along with our five collaborative partner agencies, improve crime and intelligence analysis and enhance law enforcement efforts by increased patrol presence along the two major highway drug corridors running through our area into the interior of the United States.

Key/Major Deliverables:

1. Establish and fill two new Police Officer positions.
2. Establish and fill a new Crime Analyst position.
3. Purchase and install a Mobile Data Link System for our 20 vehicles to enhance data gathering and data sharing capabilities.
4. Purchase two tag readers for highway interdiction.
5. Fully utilize the present Records Management System to establish an Intelligence-Led Policing system.
6. Improve Collaborative Partner effectiveness.

Coordination Plans: The Robstown Police Department has established data/intelligence sharing and highway interdiction efforts with five collaborative partner agencies. New equipment and an Intelligence-Led Policing capability will increase data sharing and improve coordination with our partners.

Program Narrative (Attachment 2):

Category: Category 1, Combating Criminal Narcotics Activity along the Southern Border.

1. Statement of the Problem:

Narcotics and human trafficking is a common problem in South Texas. Every day there are illicit narcotics loads being transported in the hundreds of pounds and individuals are being transported as human cargo to areas within the United States. While Mexico has very strict gun laws, 55 percent of the weapons seized last year were assault weapons and it is estimated 90 percent of the weapons used by the drug cartels were illegally exported from the United States. The Mexican border is only 112 miles to our west and 119 miles to our south. Most illicit traffic moving north from Mexico through south Texas must flow through our area; therefore, we experience the same problems associated with the narcotics, weapons and human smuggling activity as those cities directly on the Mexico/United States border. In fact, the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection now includes Nueces County in the same border security concern area as the Mexico/United States border counties. In an effort to curb the narcotics, weapon and human cargo movement, South Texas Law Enforcement has formed working relationships to work together on this organized crime problem. Our six member local agency collation works joint operations on highway interdiction, data collection and data sharing projects. The Robstown Police Department efforts are complicated by a lack of technology already in place and in use by its five collaborative partner agencies and by a lack of police officer and data analysis resources required to be fully effective in the partnership. At the present time, communications within the Robstown, Texas Police Department is limited to voice communications via an 800 MHz radio system. This system can, and is, monitored by criminal organizations. Any data or intelligence gathered by the field officers must be shared over this

non-secured radio system and must be entered into our Records Management System by someone else receiving the information. This increases the possibility of data entry error. In addition, there is no method of determining the real-time location of our mobile units which is a critical officer safety problem. Our lack of resources limits effective law enforcement, reduces our ability to collect and share real-time, secure data with other organizations and reduces the safety of our officers. New technology, such as an automated license plate recognition system (tag readers), cannot be used by us because we have no data link system in our vehicles. A mobile data link system, additional sworn officers and a data analyst to assist with intelligence-Led Policing will greatly assist us in addressing narcotics related activities, real-time data collection and dissemination, crime and intelligence analysis and immediately improve our data sharing efforts and performance in this critical area of South Texas law enforcement. These are simple, effective solutions to our problem that can be accomplished by us in a very short period of time. We presently have a large capacity server network with Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management Systems installed. We can accomplish the installation and begin operations within six months after receiving grant funding, leaving us about 18 months of the Recovery Act 24 month period to collect, analysis and report on the effectiveness of our program.

2. Program Design and Implementation:

Presently, the Robstown Police Department has an Executive Information Systems PS.NET Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management System. While we fully utilize the dispatch capabilities of this system, we have never had the resources or technology to fully utilize the data management collection, data analysis or real-time data sharing capabilities available in the Records Management System. The Robstown Police Department project objectives with this

grant request are to hire two additional sworn police officers and one data analyst. In addition, our plan is to purchase essential and necessary mobile data link equipment which will improve our ability to collect and share data within our department, with our five collaborative agencies, with other law enforcement departments and public service or private sector organizations. We will also purchase some technology improvements to assist our officers with surveillance and interdiction support. All equipment which has been selected is American made and maintained by an American Company. We foresee no problem in achieving any of these objectives or in our ability to establish an effective Intelligence-Led Policing objective for our local law enforcement and interdiction efforts. Additional short term objectives of our project are to increase the number of agencies and organizations in our working collation and to integrate our normal city patrol and police efforts into the new Intelligence-Led Policing objective. The proposed mobile data link system to be installed in our vehicles will allow our officers to add real-time information to our Record Management System database and to immediately view the data collected, not only from information entered via the mobile data terminals, but information entered by the dispatchers, other officers via their routine police reports and by the detectives and narcotics officers. The Global Positioning System feature, which is a part of the mobile data link equipment, will greatly enhance officer safety. It has been our experience that many drug and human smugglers prefer to use stolen vehicles to transport their illicit cargo. A patrol vehicle with an automated license plate recognition system can detect a license plate and capture both color and infrared images of the license plate. The infrared cameras are able to read the tag regardless of sun glare or darkness and at a vehicle closure rate of 140 MPH (two vehicles going 70 in opposite directions). Once a plate is read, the system uses the mobile data link to search multiple local, state and federal databases and gives the officer a reply in just seconds.

Additional funding to hire two new officers will allow us to increase the number of officers on the highway with interdiction responsibility. With added highway support, we will be able to improve our interception and apprehension of individuals involved in narcotics, weapons and human trafficking. Through improved and secured data collection using the mobile data link system and analysis provided by the data analyst individual, we will improve our arrest and prosecution success rate and will have improved intelligence for interdiction. This will increase our apprehension of illicit narcotics, weapons and human cargo. From this, South Texas should experience a reduction in the ability of organized criminal drug organizations to operate. As with other communities throughout this Nation, South Texas has been impacted by the depressed economy resulting in an unemployed rate change from 4.8% in January 2008 to an unemployed rate of 6.1% in January 2009 in our area. In the City of Robstown, 30% of our families live at or below the poverty rate. Despite the depressed economy and resulting loss of revenue to the City of Robstown, the Robstown Police Department has been fortunate enough to keep all of our budgeted positions and continues to provide all our essential services. The City of Robstown is making every effort to keep all their employees and there are no current plans to reduce or terminate any employment or reduce any services. Therefore, Recovery Act funding will not be required to retain or reinstate any position. However, the present depressed economy does not allow funds in the City of Robstown budget to hire additional required personnel resources or upgrade to new technology. The Recovery Act funding will allow us to create three additional full-time positions and to provide additional services with the Intelligence-Led Policing establishment.

3. Capabilities/Competencies

The four Robstown police officers that presently work narcotics on a full time bases have more than forty years combined experience as Texas peace officers and 12 years combined experienced working narcotics and interdiction. The two officers hired with this grant funding will allow us to move two additional experienced officers to highway interdiction duties and increase our experience factor. Presently, highway interdiction is a daily task for us and a frequent operation with our five collaborative partners. The data analyst position will be a new position. We will obtain the 28 CFR 23 training required and Executive Information Services will provide on-site data collection and data analysis training using the Records Management System. We will also plan for on-the-job training with a local department already involved in Intelligence-Led Policing. The Police Chief, Narcotics Sergeant, Lieutenants and any other individual assigned to work in this area will be trained in the Intelligence-Led Policing concept. In time, we plan to train all personnel. Our present Local Area Network (LAN), Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) are large enough to handle the proposed mobile data link system. Our Records Management System has Intelligence-Led Policing capabilities which we will expand and utilize. Existing statutes require us to maintain accounting and tracking of all grant monies on a separate and individual basis and this includes separate bank accounts, account numbers and bookkeeping. The City of Robstown Finance Director will have full responsibility for this accounting and tracking. We have never had a problem tracking grant funding in the past.

4. Impact/Outcomes, Evaluation, Sustainment, Description of Applicant's Plan for the Collection of the Data Required for Performance Measures:

The City of Robstown and the Robstown Police Department are willing to participate in any evaluation managed by the National Institute of Justice. While we have been a participant in surveys regarding our past grant funding activities, we have never been a part of an evaluation. With the improvements provided through this grant funding, we believe we have sufficient resources to be a part of any evaluation. Given the time to install the Mobile Data Link interface and build our data base, our present Records Management System will function very well and provide an excellent base for Intelligence-Led Policing efforts. We have found our present database is not accurate regarding our past activity. This is because we have not had the ability to enter all the information which became available to us. The mobile data link equipment and data analyst will allow us to build a more reliable database during the first year and prove our program effectiveness during the second year of this funding project. This effectiveness will be proven by the number of contraband carrier arrests, increase of narcotics and weapons seized, prosecution success, reduction in local violence, local drug warrants executed and other criminal activity entries or public safety and private sector involvement. The data that will be collected includes all the activity normally handled by a police department such as, arrests, assaults, violence, disturbances, burglaries, robberies, traffic stops, citation information, contraband, questionable activity, residence information, people information, etc. As data is entered by our officers, detectives, dispatchers, etc. or data is received from other agencies or private industry, it will be integrated into our Records Management System crime database. The data will be evaluated by the data analyst, and then disseminated throughout the department through grafts, reports and intelligence alerts. Data will be made available to individuals outside of law

enforcement but we must always consider privacy concerns. For this Recovery Act grant, our program success will be based on contraband arrests and contraband sized. The City of Robstown, Texas and the Robstown Police Department will retain the two sworn officers and the data analyst at the conclusion of the 24 months of federal funding. We firmly believe it is in the best interest of our community to utilize the increased law enforcement capabilities which the Recovery Act has provided through these three new positions. There are no plans to reduce or remove any personnel in the Robstown Police Department by layoffs, furlough or reduce the present number of positions by attrition. The 2012 department budget, and future budgets, will include these three positions as a general budget entry.

Complete the budget worksheet, with computations.
(Note: Fields expand in size as data and text is entered.)

[illegible][illegible]

Purpose	Location	Item	Computation	Cost
Required Grant Training	Dallas, TX	Lodging	2 ppl X 4days X \$115/night=	\$920.00
Required Grant Training	Dallas, TX	Mileage	2 ppl X .55/mile X 697miles=	\$766.70
Required Grant Training	Dallas, TX	Per Diem	2 ppl X 4days X 59/day=	\$472.00
Required Grant Meeting	Washington	Lodging	2 ppl X 3days X 233/night=	\$1,398.00
Required Grant Meeting	Washington	Airfare	2 ppl X 750/ticket=	\$1,500.00
Required Grant Meeting	Washington	Per Diem	2 ppl X 3days X 64/day=	\$384.00
28 CFR 23 Training	TBD-local	Mileage	2 ppl X .55 X 54 miles=	\$59.40
28 CFR 23 Training	TBD-local	Per Diem	2 ppl X 44/day =	\$88.00

Item	Computation	Cost
PS.NET Mobil Digital Comm. System	1 system @ \$134,131.00=	\$134,131.00
License Plate Readers	2 readers X 22,500.00=	\$45,000.00
Wireless Service for equipment	2 yrs. service X 10,000=	\$20,000.00

E. Supplies _____

Supply Item	Computation	Cost

F. Construction

Description	Computation	Cost

G. Consultants/Contracts _____

<i>Consultant Fees</i>			
Name	Service	Computation	Cost
<i>Contracts</i>			
Item	Cost		

H. Other _____

Description	Computation	Cost

Total Direct Costs _____**I. Indirect Costs**

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Budget Summary Page

A. Personnel/Salary Costs	<u>\$199,560.00</u>
B. Fringe Benefits	<u>\$68,346.92</u>
C. Travel	<u>\$5,588.00</u>
D. Equipment	<u>\$199,131.00</u>
E. Supplies	<u>\$ 0</u>
F. Construction	Unallowable
G. Consultants/Contracts	<u>\$ 0</u>
H. Other	<u>\$ 0</u>
I. Indirect Costs	<u>\$ 0</u>
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	<u>\$472,625.92</u>
Federal Request	<u>\$472,625.92</u>
Applicant Funds, if any, to be applied to this project	<u>\$ 0</u>

Budget Narrative:

A. Personnel

B. Fringe Benefits

C. Travel

1. Provide travel for two individuals to Dallas for required grant training (GSA Rate), \$2,158.70.

Lodging: \$920.00, Per Diem: \$472.00, Mileage: \$766.70

2. Provide travel for two individuals to Washington for required grant meetings (GSA Rate), \$3,282.00.

Lodging: \$1,398.00, Per Diem: \$384.00, Airfare: \$1,500.00

3. Provide 28 CFR 23 training for the data analyst and records clerk (GSA Rate), \$147.40.

Per Diem: \$88.00, Mileage: \$59.40

4. Provide Intelligence-Led Policing training for no less than ten individuals, \$0
Bureau of Justice Assistance provides training on-site.

D. Equipment

1. Purchase a PS.NET Mobil Digital Communications System including required Computer Assisted Dispatch upgrades (one time expense), \$134,131.00. This equipment is American made and is being purchased from an American Company.

2. Purchase two license plate readers (one time expense), \$45,000.00. This equipment is American made and is being purchased from an American Company.

3. Estimate to obtain wireless service for the mobile data link equipment for two years is \$20,000.00.

E. Supplies

F. Construction

G. Consultants/Contracts

H. Other

I. Indirect Costs

Budget Narrative (Attachment 3):

Category: Category 1, Combating Criminal Narcotics Activity along the Southern Border.

The City of Robstown is located at the crossroads of State Highway 77 and State Highway 44 in the center of Nueces County. Robstown has a high volume of drug and human smuggling activities along both Highway 77 and Highway 44. Both of these highways are major travel corridors from the United States border with Mexico. These roads have proven to be heavily utilized by criminals associated with drug smuggling activities. The Robstown Police Department intends to use the funds from this Recovery Act Grant to provide extra patrol and engage in operation activities intended to detect, deter, and interdict all criminal and terrorist activity in and around the City of Robstown and in support of other departments within Nueces County and our neighboring Counties.

The City of Robstown, Texas and the Robstown Police Department will retain the two sworn officers and the data analyst at the conclusion of the 24 months of federal funding. We firmly believe it is in the best interest of our community to utilize the increased law enforcement capabilities which the Recovery Act has provided through these three new positions. There are no plans to reduce or remove any personnel in the Robstown Police Department by layoffs, furlough or reduce the present number of positions by attrition. The 2012 department budget, and future budgets, will include these three positions as a general budget entry.

We have requested no Recovery Act funding for equipment maintenance. All maintenance expenses will be the responsibility of the Robstown Police Department throughout the life-cycle of the equipment.
